

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA

THE WEATHER
Probably fair tonight and Friday
rising temperature; coldest tonight
about 25 degrees; northerly winds.
TEMPERATURE AT EACH HOUR

8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5
28	28	28	27	27	26	26	26	26	26

VOL. VII.—NO. 116 Entered as Second-Class Matter at the Postoffice at Philadelphia, Pa. Under the Act of March 3, 1879. PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1921. Published Daily Except Sunday. Subscription Price \$6 a Year by Mail. Copyright, 1921, by Public Ledger Company. PRICE TWO CENTS

ANOTHER MURDERED DREWES, IS HINT OF BRINES' DEFENSE

Wynne Admits Probing Report Man Named "Al" Was Slayer

AUTO DOOR STAINS CALLED HUMAN BLOOD

State Meets Check Trying to Connect Fatal Bullet With Prisoner's Pistol

LEGAL WRANGLES CONSTANT

Testimony Weaving Circumstantial Web About Young Student Fought at Every Step

Facts in the Trial of William P. Brines

On trial—William P. Brines, U. S. prisoner.

The slain man—Elmer C. Drewes, Brines' friend, a senior at Dartmouth College. Found shot to death October 17 on Mascher street near City Line, Oak Lane.

Place of trial—Room 653, City Hall.

Judge—William F. Ferguson.

Counsel—For the prosecution, Assistant District Attorney Gordon; for the defense, William A. Gray. Trial started Monday.

A mysterious "Al" and not William Brines, Penn. sophomore, slew Elmer Drewes, Dartmouth College senior, according to the line of defense initiated today by William A. Gray, counsel for the defense.

Mr. Gray brought out this startling story at the opening session of the trial on the first day of the trial before Judge Ferguson in room 653, City Hall.

It was in his cross-examination of Major Samuel O. Wynne, chief of the state police, that Mr. Gray hinted at a solution of the murder mystery which would entirely upset the Commonwealth's case against Brines.

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Reading
Oct 9, 1920

Dear Mr. Brines,
I found some fake of your signature by a second hand copy, in Phila, some friend of yours. Thing a book 6 of my own, in perfect condition with new copy tires run 15 5 3 miles. Do they had would you send me for an offer in selling at 18.00, unply. because I need cash, very bad.

If you are interested write
Samuel Magee,
general delivery,
Reading
Penn

WHO WROTE THIS LETTER

Who is "Samuel Magee," the man who wrote the murdered Elmer Drewes the letter reproduced here? Are "Samuel Magee" and William P. Brines, the man on trial for murder, the same? The defense says handwriting comparisons will prove that Brines wrote the "Magee" letter, luring Drewes to his death. The fatal letter is shown at the reader's left. Beside it is the copy of a class paper turned in by Brines at Penn.

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EARTH SHOCKS MYSTIFY EXPERTS; CAUSE UNCERTAIN

Shifting New Jersey Sands Blamed for "Quake" by Some, While Others Search Rock Strata in Efforts to Explain

Many theories have been advanced in regard to the supposed earthquake which was felt in sections of Philadelphia and parts of New Jersey at 6:41 o'clock last night.

Following the suggestion of the Rev. Francis A. Tomford, in charge of the seismic laboratory at Georgetown University, Washington, that the settling of sands along the New Jersey coast more than a quake, may have caused the shock, comes the theory of Dr. George A. Hoadley, professor emeritus of physics at Swarthmore College, who said:

"It seems to me that the quantities of shifting sands along the coast would not be sufficient to cause tremors at this distance. It is more likely a local condition."

"The fact that it was felt in West Philadelphia and at the same time, down near Fourth street, might be due to a strata of rock. Vibrations are carried a great distance along a certain strata."

RESCUES FIREMAN'S CHILD

Hoseman Saves Infant Son of Man in Hospital When Home Burns

Robert Prodoehl, eight month-old son of a fireman now undergoing treatment for injuries, was overcome by smoke and rescued by Hoseman Joe Hockett, of Engine Company No. 55, when flames swept the basement and kitchen of Leo Prodoehl's home, 610 Hoga street, at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The child was in a baby carriage in the kitchen. The fire, originating in the basement, swept up through the kitchen floor, during the child's mother, who was in the room, attempted to commit suicide in the house before she could rescue Robert.

Flames were licking up through the door directly under the mobius-band child when Hoseman Hockett went to his rescue. The child's father was at City Hall undergoing treatment for injuries sustained at a recent fire. He is now recovering in the hospital.

The rescued baby was taken to St. Luke's Hospital. The fire caused \$500 damage.

SLAYER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Tompkins, Convicted of Killing Woman, Tries to Hang Himself

George C. Tompkins, of Philadelphia, convicted of first degree murder for killing Mrs. Edmund I. Humphreys in the Blair County Courts last week after getting a change of venue from Cambria county, attempted to commit suicide in the jail at Hollidaysburg last night.

Tompkins, according to his guard, removed his belt, made a noose and fastened it to the iron bars of his cell. Just as he slipped his head into the noose the guard, hearing a noise, turned sharply and caught Tompkins before he was able to throw himself.

After the belt was taken away from him, Tompkins displayed an angry temper, tearing his shirt from his neck, breaking his toothbrush and comb and hurling them through the wicket of the iron door, the guard said. Extra guards have been placed about his cell.

SKATING TODAY

Concourse Lake, Merion Cricket Club Lake, Haverford College pond.

6 CHILDREN SAVED WITH MOTHERS IN SEVENTH ST. FIRE

Trapped on Third Floor, Firemen Rescue Two Families From Death

GREAT TEAMWORK SHOWN BY MEN AS FLAMES SPREAD

Two women and six children were rescued from fire early this morning by patrolmen and firemen who carried them down ladders through flame and smoke from the third-story windows of a house at 2011 South Seventh street.

The fire damaged the three-story brick store and dwelling of Emanuel Kaplan at that address. Those rescued are Mrs. Kaplan and her three children, Bessie, eight years old; Louis, six years old; and Yetta, four years old; and Mrs. Esther Tepperman and her three children, Ethel, thirteen years old; Tossie, seven years old; and Rose, five years old.

Kaplan tried in vain to find some way to lead the two families to safety, and remained with them until they were rescued by firemen. Then he saved himself by dashing through smoke and flame down a back staircase.

The two families were cared for by neighbors.

Great Teamwork Shown

"Pat" Hicks, hoseman of Engine Company 23; Patrolmen Himmelsstein and Melgona, of the Fourth street and Snyder avenue station; Acting Captain for the Strickland, of Trunk 11; and two brothers, Kelleman and Parnell Smith, ladderman of the same company, were the heroes of the fire. By swift and fearless teamwork they carried the eight endangered persons to safety, though the fire was spreading fast and the smoke stifling.

The fire began some time after 1 o'clock this morning in Kaplan's store on the first floor of the three-story building. A man passing saw the flames and turned in an alarm. The shouts of neighbors aroused the occupants of the house.

The Kaplans live on the second floor, the Teppermans on the third. Kaplan sought to find a way to lead his wife and children to safety when he was weakened by the noise, but the flames had spread so quickly that he realized he would be unable to get the frightened woman and children down the stairway.

The Teppermans had been awakened early for help on the third floor. Kaplan led his own family upstairs, and the nine persons crowded to the front windows to escape the smoke that was pouring up the staircase into the rooms.

The engine company and the patrol from Fourth street and Snyder avenue arrived at almost the same time, and the crews set to work to rescue the endangered persons.

Clamber Up Ladders

The firemen shouted encouragement to the group trapped on the third floor, and a third-story ladder was set up. Hicks was first to spring on the lower rungs, and went nimbly to the top. Patrolman Himmelsstein, who would give him a firm ladder to be placed in position, raised the front of the building by way of a cornice. Patrolman Melgona, breaking into the store, held his breath and made a dash for the stairs, which were smoking and flicked by flames, but still safe, and dashed upstairs, bursting into the room where the woman and children waited in vain.

The crew of Truck 11 set up other ladders, and Captain Simpkins and the South brothers, swarmed up through the smoke that poured from the windows.

The work of rescue was done quickly. Hoseman Hicks got Yetta and Bessie Kaplan, making two trips through the smoke. Then he rescued the Teppermans. Captain Simpkins and the South brothers brought down the two mothers and children, who were smoking and who were safe, then saved himself. He had found that he could get down by the back staircase, when he was looking for a means to rescue his family, but failed to take the women and children out that way.

He took a deep breath and dashed into the smolder. He was through and got out of the rear.

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Lim'rick Prize Goes to Haverford

There was a good deal of mystery about the winner of the ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR limpin' lim'rick prize awarded today. You'll see all about it on Page 2. The winner is:

MRS. R. HOWARD EISENBREY
College Avenue, Haverford, Pa.

LIMERICK No. 31

Cried Robert, "Oh, sweet little Claire,
I adore your rich tresses so rare;
One curl I implore
And I'll leave you no more."

Now Bob's hair pulls the hair of bobbed Clair.

There's Another Limpin' Lim'rick Today—See Page 2

G. O. P. IS SOBERED BY COMING TASKS

Harding's Heavy Responsibility Ties Temper Spirit of Leaders in Washington

Young Woman of 17 and Miss- ing Marine Found in Lodging House

PAWNEE HER TRINKETS REGRET SHELVING OF ROOT

Marion L. Liller, United States marine sergeant at the Philadelphia Navy yard, and his seventeen-year-old wife, Hazel, were found half starved today in a room at a lodging house at 149 North Fifteenth street.

Liller, who had been absent without leave from the navy yard since January 15, was lying on a bed, weak from hunger. His wife, her attractive features marked by suffering, was seated beside him.

"I haven't eaten since the night before last," Liller told Department of Justice agents when they entered the room. "My wife pawned her trinkets, and finally I pawned my marine overcoat for \$1 and we bought our last meal Tuesday night."

At the office of the United States marshal in the Federal Building, Liller said he was married last February at Kysner, W. Va. His wife, who was Hazel Thompson, daughter of a foreman in the steel works there, was a circus performer, he said.

Gertrude Ely, of this city, spoke on relief work in Europe. Mrs. Frank Miles Day, chairman of the League of Good Government, was the principal speaker at the meeting.

Mrs. Rolston of Ardmore, was re-elected president; Mrs. A. Hamilton, of Conyngh, vice president; Mrs. Georgia Fowler, secretary, and Mrs. Ely Gaudreault, treasurer.

BIG RAILWAYS SUGGEST GENERAL WAGE REDUCTION

Committee Will Discuss Proposal With Labor Board Tomorrow

Chicago, Jan. 27.—(By A. P.)—Members of the labor committee of the American Association of Railway Executives met today in a session at Chicago for a meeting here Friday to discuss with the United States Railway Labor Board the possibility of wage reductions for employees on the leading railroad systems of the country. W. W. Atterbury, of the Pennsylvania Railroad; E. E. Loomis, of the Lehigh Valley; and M. L. Bell, of the Chicago and North Western, are among those expected to attend.

The railroad executives, it is said, are ready to submit to the railway wage board figures to show that at the present railroad rates the property owners are not earning 6 per cent guaranteed by the transportation act; that the rates now are as high as the business can bear; that the losses have been cut to the minimum consistent with safe operation; and that a reduction in wages is the only remaining plan for a reduction in expenses.

Friday on the case of the Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic Railroad, which posted notices of wage reductions. Representatives of the railroad brotherhoods brought the wage reduction notices to the attention of the railroad labor board, asking that the board order the railroad to rescind them.

President E. L. Rouseell, of the board, said that under present operating expenses the road was losing \$100,000 a month.

MAY FACE CHURCH TRIAL

Act of Rector Who Married A. I. du Pont Under Scrutiny

Los Angeles, Calif., Jan. 27.—(By A. P.)—Trial of the Rev. Baker P. Lee, formerly rector of Christ Church here, before twelve of his peers in the Episcopal church, on a charge of violation of an ecclesiastical canon in having performed a marriage ceremony for Joseph H. Johnson, a manufacturer of Wilmington, Del., and Miss Jessie D. Hill, of Los Angeles, was being considered today, according to church officials.

A resolution was adopted at the convention of the diocese at Los Angeles, insuring the Right Rev. Joseph H. Johnson of the support of the convention should be denied, as bishop of the diocese of Los Angeles, to call Mr. Lee for trial.

The charge, it was said, would be valid only if the marriage ceremony performed by the rector was held in the presence of a minister of the gospel, and if the parties to the marriage were of legal age and had a former spouse living.

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